IN THE CLAIMS:

1 – 10. [Canceled]

11. [Currently amended] A phase coupler for operable communication~~use~~ with a service line within an electrical distribution panel, the phase coupler comprising:

a housing made of electrically insulating material, the housing having a base adapted for connection with one of the distribution panel and an outlet receptacle;

at least two high potential terminals being adapted for connection to at least two corresponding high potential lines disposed in one of the electrical distribution panel and said outlet receptacle, each high potential terminal being exposed at said base of housing;

a low potential terminal being adapted for connecting to a low potential means~~, the low potential terminal extending through the housing~~; and

a band pass filter circuit being enclosed within said housing and connecting between each high potential terminal and said low potential terminal, said capacitive circuit configured to transfer a signal having a predetermined frequency or frequency range between said at least two high potential terminals.

12. [Original] The phase coupler of claim 11 further including a surge arrestor circuit enclosed within said housing and connecting between each high potential terminal and said low potential terminal.

13. [Original] The phase coupler of claim 11 wherein the phase coupler includes:

a wire lead electrically connecting to the low potential terminal and the low potential means; and

a pair of contact stabs connecting to each high potential terminal, the contact stabs configured to electrically and mechanically connect to a bus bar.

14. [Original] The phase coupler of claim 11 wherein the phase coupler includes:

a wire lead electrically connecting to the low potential terminal and the low potential means; and

a pair of contacts connecting to each high potential terminal, the contacts configured to be fastened to a bus bar for mechanical and electrical connection therewith.

15. [Currently amended] The phase coupler of claim 11 wherein said base is configured to engage the~~an~~ outlet receptacle and the phase coupler further includes:

a neutral terminal prong electrically connecting to the low potential terminal and the low potential means, wherein said low potential means is a neutral receptacle terminal of an electrical outlet receptacle; and

a pair of plug-in terminals connecting to each high potential terminal of said outlet receptacle, the plug-in terminals configured to electrically and mechanically connect to corresponding high potential receptacle terminals of said outlet receptacle.

16. [Original] The phase coupler of claim 11 wherein said frequency range is suitable for supporting a communication protocol for control of powerline carrier products over an AC powerline.

17. [Currently amended] A multiphase load center~~, panelboard or the like~~ comprising:

a service line in operable communication with the load center, said service line including at least two high potential lines and a low potential means;

a plurality of branch circuit breakers connected to at least one of said at least two high potential lines and said low potential means, each of said branch circuit breakers mounted within the load center and in operable communication with a controller;

a phase coupler configured to~~for~~ transfer~~ring~~ a signal from said controller across said at least two high potential lines, the phase coupler comprising:

a housing made of electrically insulating material, the housing having a base adapted for connection with one of the distribution panel and an outlet receptacle;

at least two high potential terminals being adapted for connecting to said at least two corresponding high potential lines of the service line disposed in one of the electrical distribution panel and said outlet receptacle;

a low potential terminal being adapted for connecting to said low potential means; and

a capacitive circuit connecting said at least two high potential terminals with one another for signal transfer at a predetermined frequency while isolating electrical power between said high potential lines.

18. [Original] The multiphase load center of claim 17 wherein the phase coupler further includes a surge arrestor circuit connected to the circuit in operable communication with said at least two high potential terminals and said low potential terminal.

19. [Original] The multiphase load center of claim 17 wherein said phase coupler includes:

a wire lead electrically connecting to the low potential terminal and the low potential means; and

a pair of contact stabs connecting to each high potential terminal, the contact stabs configured to electrically and mechanically connect to a bus bar.

20. [Original] The multiphase load center of claim 17 wherein the phase coupler includes:

a wire lead electrically connecting to the low potential terminal and the low potential means; and

a pair of contacts connecting to each high potential terminal, the contacts configured to be fastened to a bus bar for mechanical and electrical connection therewith.

21. [Original] The multiphase load center of claim 17 further including a main circuit breaker mounted within the load center, said main circuit breaker receiving current from said service line and distributing said current to said plurality of branch circuit breakers.

22. [Original] The multiphase load center of claim 17 wherein said frequency range is suitable for supporting a communication protocol for control of powerline carrier products over an AC powerline.

23. [Newly Added] The multiphase load center of claim 17 wherein said predetermined frequency includes a frequency range of about 100 kHz to about 400 kHz.

24. [Newly Added] The phase coupler of claim 11 wherein said predetermined frequency includes a frequency range of about 100 kHz to about 400 kHz.